# AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MAY 1, 2002 AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 18, 2002 AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 4, 2002

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2001-02 REGULAR SESSION

## ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 1956

# **Introduced by Assembly Member Vargas**

February 14, 2002

An act to add Chapter 22 (commencing with Section 22520) to Division 8 of the Business and Professions Code, relating to video areade facilities. arcades.

#### LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1956, as amended, Vargas. Video areade facilities arcades. Existing law regulates the operation of various types of businesses. This bill would require a video arcade facility, as defined, to post a sign-warning notifying consumers of the potential psychological harm to children caused by video areade games and encouraging the use of that an industry-created rating system when selecting is available to aid in the selection of a game. The bill would also require a facility video arcade to make a brochure available to the public consumer explaining this system. The bill would make a violation of these requirements subject to a civil penalty of \$150.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no. State-mandated local program: no.

AB 1956 — 2 —

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. Chapter 22 (commencing with Section 22520) is added to Division 8 of the Business and Professions Code, to read:

### Chapter 22. Video Arcade Facilities Arcades

- 22520. A video arcade facility shall post a sign that warns consumers that due to the graphic display of virtual violence, extensive exposure to video arcade games may be psychologically harmful to children. The sign shall also encourage the use of a notifies consumers that a video arcade game rating system, created by the video arcade gaming industry, when selecting is available to aid in the selection of a game. This sign shall be posted on the wall of the facility arcade in a prominent area such as the arcade entrance, the money exchange machine, or the token counter. The lettering of each sign shall be printed, at a minimum, in 36-point type and shall be in black ink against a light colored background, with dimensions no less than 18 inches by 24 inches.
- 22521. A video arcade facility shall make available a brochure to consumers that explains the rating system described in Section 22520. The brochures shall be located in a prominent area of the arcade such as at the arcade entrance, near a money exchange machine, or at the token counter.
- 22522. The failure to comply with the provisions of this chapter shall be subject to a civil penalty of one hundred fifty dollars (\$150) that shall be assessed for each day that the violation exists.
- 22522. For the purposes of this chapter, "video arcade" means any premises where 10 or more video game machines or devices are operated and where minors are legally permitted to conduct business.